

Sage Notes



*... promoting interest in
Idaho's native flora.*

Spring 2007 ❖ SAGE NOTES ❖ A Publication of the Idaho Native Plant Society Vol. 29 (1)

Dear INPS Members,

I want to thank Steve Rust, who is stepping down as editor of Sage Notes, for all of the hard work he has put into editing this publication for the last two years. A big round of applause for all of the people who worked with Steve on putting together and mailing out these issues.

Welcome to the new editor, Dylan Levy-Boyd (Loasa Chapter). After much arm-twisting and negotiating, Dylan has agreed to edit Sage Notes for 2007. Dylan is aided and abetted by two committee members: Gary Rogers (Kinnikinnick Chapter) and Michael Mancuso (Pahove Chapter). Gary is serving as the chapter liaison. He is gathering chapter news, field trip schedules, etc. from each of the individual chapters. Michael Mancuso is serving as technical editor. The committee still needs a couple of more people to aid in all the work that goes into putting out an issue.

There is a list of INPS committees contained within this newsletter. Please contact me if you have an interest in serving on any of them or if you know of anyone whose skills would benefit the committee. The committee member list is constantly changing as people's circumstances change. Maybe you or your friend are just exactly the person needed on that committee.

Come join a group of fellow native plant enthusiasts for the Rare Plant Conference (RPC) on February 13-14, 2007. If you can't come to the RPC, please mark your calendar for June 15-17, 2007, for the annual meeting at Craters of the Moon. This is a don't miss affair. The committee has been diligently working to put on an extremely interesting meeting in this distinct ecological area.

I'm hoping to meet some of you in person at the Rare Plant Conference and even more of you at the annual meeting. Let's work together to make this the largest annual meeting ever.

Cheers!

Janet Benoit, INPS President

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{ Articles contributed to *Sage Notes* reflect the views of the authors and are not an official position of the Idaho Native Plant Society }

Idaho Rare Plant Conference, February 13-14, 2007

Dear Rare Plant Conference Attendee,

We request the pleasure of your company at the 23rd Idaho Rare Plant Conference. Please make plans to join us February 13-14, 2007 at Idaho Power Corporate Headquarters, 13th and Idaho streets in downtown Boise, Idaho.

The conference format will follow a streamlined version of 2006 on the first day. This year **we will review and discuss ONLY those species with a recommended *status change* or *addition* submitted to the rare plant organizing committee prior to the conference.**

The format is explained in the "Instructions for Submitting Species" form. *Please be aware, this form has changed.* It is important that you read and understand these instructions to ensure that species you would like to discuss as *additions* or with recommended *status change* will be addressed at the conference. Group discussion of species on the INPS rare plant list remains at the heart of the conference.

If you plan to arrive on Monday evening, February 12th, join fellow members at 6:30 p.m. for no-host dining and beverages at Bardenay, located at 610 Grove Street (NE of Capital and Front) in downtown Boise. On the evening of the 13th we will hold our annual dinner banquet. This is a great opportunity to socialize with botany friends of old, as well as make new acquaintances.

Our scheduled speaker the evening of February 13th during the 23rd Annual Idaho Rare Plant Conference banquet is George Wuerthner, ecological projects director for the Foundation for Deep Ecology. As the editor of the recent publication of *Wildfire: A Century of Failed Forest Policy* he will be speaking on major themes of this book. Topics will include wildfire ecology in the West with emphasis on its importance as a major ecological process, past and present fire and land use policies in relation to ecological realities, and recommendations on how we can learn to live with wildfire.

The banquet will be held at The Waterfront, about 3.5 miles west of Idaho Power. Carpooling is encouraged.

Wednesday morning will be full of educational and interesting special topics: Bob Meinke on *Stanleya confertiflora* status and conservation, Tim Breuer with the Land Trust of Treasure Valley talking on rare plant conservation on private lands, Walt Fertig speaking on rare plant predictive modeling, and Jacie Jensen speaking on restoration of the Palouse Prairie. Wednesday afternoon workshops will include, among other topics, a continuation of "Plant Conservation Status Ranking Work Group", and return of the popular discussion on species of high conservation concern: *Stanleya confertiflora*, *Mirabilis macfarlanei*, and *Physaria didymocarpa* var. *lyrata*.

As the workshops and special topics become finalized, information about them will be posted on the INPS web page, so please check the website periodically. Additional information will be available at the conference. Parking around the Idaho Power building has not improved so we recommend you stay within walking distance if possible.

A \$35 registration fee (\$15 for students) is due by January 31. Registration submitted after February 1 will be \$45 (\$25 for students). Attendance of the special topic sessions on Wednesday morning only is available at \$15 per person (\$8 for students). Cost of the banquet is expected to once again be under \$20 per person. For agency personnel facing difficulties with pre-registration funding, please RSVP by the January 31 deadline to secure the early registration rate and submit payment on arrival at the conference.

The registration form, schedule, and other relevant information will be available on-line at www.idahonativeplants.org. Registration forms obtained on the INPS website may be submitted electronically or watch for registration materials in the coming issue of Sage Notes.

The results of the 2006 Rare Plant Conference are posted on the website along with results from previous years. Remember to bring your rare plant booklets from years past. Specialty publications and other items of interest will be available for purchase at the conference.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns, and thank you for your interest.

Gillian Crymes
Organizing Committee Chairperson
(208) 345-0283
gillmatt@msn.com

This year's IRPC special topic presenters have kindly provided abstracts (and more!) previewing their talks. If you plan on making it to Boise this year, these articles will agitate those frozen cranial juices, getting you interested and asking questions well before arrival. If you can't make this year's IRPC, this is a great way to get a glimpse of the action and maybe it will inspire future attendance.

Private Landowners Work to Preserve the Natives

by Tim M. Breuer, Executive Director
Land Trust of the Treasure Valley

Healthy native plant populations are to botanists what sweeping landscapes are to painters and photographers. Like a vista free of man-made intrusions, large stands of natives are becoming harder to find, especially in the urban 'front country'.



Carex aboriginum (Indian Valley sedge) endemic to the Indian Valley area of Adams County, Idaho (photos: Lisa Hahn)

The Land Trust of the Treasure Valley is a community supported non-profit organization that works to preserve natural, scenic and recreation lands in the Treasure Valley. By working collaboratively with property owners, conservation strategies are developed that help a land owner achieve their goals for the property. One such project involves land in Payette County where Mary Trail, a founding member of INPS, has begun a series of projects on behalf of rare and native plants of Idaho.

Mary and her brother Jon, have protected 50 acres of the family farm near Payette which includes healthy natives and the rare Mulford's milkvetch. Working with the Land Trust of the Treasure Valley, the Trails placed a protective conservation agreement on their property to assure these plants will not be impacted by urban expansion. The Land Trust is responsible for long term monitoring of the agreement.

This would be plenty of good will for Idaho natives, but there's more. The Trails have been working diligently with the NRCS and an array of others to construct a wetland near the Snake River. The Jewel Wetland project will help scrub irrigation water before it flows back into the Snake River. The Land Trust of the Treasure Valley holds mitigation funds from a Clean Water Act lawsuit which supports the project. The gem of the Jewel Wetland project includes an attempt to establish the Indian Valley Sedge, a plant once thought to be extinct but is now being nurtured by the Trails and others. "My botanist friends tell me the discovery of the sedge was like finding the Ivory Billed Woodpecker. It's very exciting", said Mary.

Conservation agreements with land trusts are a good tool for open space conservation, but it takes dedicated landowners like the Trails who have a desire to assure healthy habitats are part of Idaho's future.

For more information about the community supported non-profit Land Trust of the Treasure Valley, log on to www.lttv.org

Rare Plant Habitat Modeling in Wyoming

by Walter Fertig, Botanist/Consultant

Predictive modeling of plant distributions rests on the assumption that correlations exist between the presence/absence of a species and selected climate, topographic, substrate, and land cover variables. Once these underlying patterns are determined, maps can be created in GIS that identify areas that meet the specific conditions hypothesized for a given species. Such maps can be used to prioritize areas for field surveys of rare plants or assist land managers in project clearance activities. Using classification tree analysis, I developed correlational models for 44 Wyoming rare plant species listed as BLM Sensitive or Threatened and Endangered under the Endangered Species Act. Presence/absence of each species was the response variable in the models and was derived from location records of the Wyoming Natural Diversity Database and Rocky Mountain Herbarium. Environmental variables, including total monthly precipitation, average monthly air temperature, monthly shortwave radiation, number of wet days, growing degree days, local topographic relief, bedrock and surficial geology, soils, elevation, and land cover, were used as predictors. Location data were randomly subdivided into model-building and validation data sets to test the classification success of the final models. We found that the distribution of rare species in Wyoming was most strongly correlated with specific bedrock and soil types, but was also influenced by topographic relief, land cover, and various monthly precipitation and temperature values. Overall, the models were conservative in the area predicted for these species and typically had low commission error rates. The distribution maps produced by correlational modeling did an excellent job of identifying areas where rare species are unlikely to occur and did a good job of highlighting areas of potential habitat that warrant further on-the-ground investigation.

Conservation Status and Life History Observations for the Malheur Prince's Plume (*Stanleya confertiflora*: Brassicaceae)

by Robert J. Meinke, Department of Botany & Plant Pathology, OSU /Oregon Department of Agriculture

Stanleya confertiflora is a short-lived herbaceous species endemic to the northern Great Basin of Oregon and Idaho. It is an enigmatic sagebrush zone wildflower, spectacularly showy yet seldom seen, with geographically

segregated color variants and an undocumented life history. Its relatively wide distribution but infrequent occurrence makes *S. confertiflora* a potential candidate for protection under the ESA, especially when considering that most populations occur within federally-managed grazing allotments. BLM and others are justifiably concerned about the conservation status of the species and how its decline could impact the management of sagebrush ecosystems.

In recent years, two lines of research have been initiated that have a bearing on conservation planning for *S. confertiflora*. First, are the white and yellow floral morphs in the species, which are not sympatric in nature, taxonomically significant? So far this work has been limited to field observations, greenhouse comparisons, and morphometric evaluations. Second, is the species as rare as we think, and are there aspects about its ecology and demography that can help us evaluate its scarcity and vulnerability? Why is it readily observed some years and seldom seen in others, even in wet years and in areas known to harbor populations? Towards this end, long-term monitoring plots have been established at five study sites across southeast Oregon, with data from the last several years evaluated to provide a clearer picture of the life history of the species.

Results of the taxonomic evaluations are somewhat equivocal to date, with greenhouse and field work showing no real measurable differences between yellow- and white-flowered populations with respect to flowering phenology, pollination ecology, seed biology, or other life history traits. However, even when flower color is excluded from the morphological data sets, principal components analysis demonstrates that the two forms of the species are not equivalent. This work has only assessed Oregon populations, however, and needs to be expanded to include plants from Idaho. Molecular evaluations are also called for to provide additional insights into the relationship between the populations.

By 2006, seven years of monitoring had been completed for five *S. confertiflora* populations in Oregon. The data collected confirm the biennial life history of the species. Also of interest is the pattern wherein *Stanleya* populations have consisted almost entirely of seedlings one year, followed by a very high proportion of reproductive adults the next, indicating that there are often alternating “reproductive years” and “non-reproductive years” for the species and that these episodes may very well be predictable. Also interesting is that, during this study, this pattern has been more or less synchronized across the geographic range for *Stanleya* populations in Oregon, including both white- and yellow-flowered sites. For a given year, the populations were either almost entirely reproductive (with very few if any non-flowering juveniles), or were primarily represented by first year rosettes (with reproductive plants absent or very rare).

Analyses of monthly precipitation patterns, life history traits, and population responses since October, 1999 revealed that high levels of soil moisture are most important for non-reproductive *Stanleya* populations in the fall and spring, which promote germination and establishment of deep-rooted rosettes capable of living beyond their first year. For years when the populations are largely in flower, rainfall during spring and summer is more critical, to facilitate bolting and a longer reproductive period for seed maturation. And as might be expected, the size of seedlings is correlated with later reproductive success – juvenile plants were more likely to survive to become flowering individuals if they were larger, underscoring the likely relationship between adequate rainfall for first year plants and the probability of ultimately flowering and setting seed. This pattern was disrupted, however, if seedling plots were exposed to grazing.



Stanleya confertiflora (photo: Bob Meinke)

Observations generally support the likelihood that grazing is a negative influence on *Stanleya* populations. Cattle will occasionally consume *Stanleya* stems in fenced pastures, but they ignore the species on the open range. However, the introduction and establishment of weed populations, such as whitetop, *Cirsium* spp., and others may be a more serious problem for the species, probably effecting seedling exclusion or competition and habitat degradation. Juvenile plants exposed to trampling during this study, even though not actually grazed, suffered reduced fecundity the following year as adults.

To summarize:

- *Stanleya confertiflora* is an obligate biennial, which is generally considered an uncommon plant life history. Thousands of seed are produced per mature plant – these are dormant when dispersed, requiring cold stratification to germinate.
 - The species evidently has years where populations are mostly flowering and reproductive, and years where they are primarily vegetative and non-reproductive – it tentatively appears these years may more or less alternate on a range-wide basis (in Oregon), based on seven years of study.
 - When in flower the species is easily recognizable, even from a distance. Field inventories for the species should be restricted to known “reproductive” years and avoided during years when populations are known or expected to be primarily vegetative.
- Precipitation amounts and timing, combined with demographic data from prior years, may be useful in predicting whether or not the species will make a significant appearance in any given year.
- Despite what appears to be many thousands of acres of potential habitat for *Stanleya confertiflora* in southeast Oregon and adjacent Idaho, few populations for the species have been discovered, and it continues to be a very rare and potentially endangered species.
 - Unless cattle can be excluded altogether, grazing plans for *Stanleya* populations should take into account the biennial reproductive cycle of the species – since plants are probably unpalatable, it is most critical to avoid impacting populations during their pre-reproductive (i.e. non-flowering) phase, to ensure survival of high quality second year plants to promote adequate flowering and seed production.

Palouse Prairie Weed Management and Commercial Production of Certified Palouse Wildflower and Grass Seed

by Jacie Jensen

Wayne and Jacie Jensen, 3rd generation Palouse area farmers, focus on stewardship on their farm land through direct seed systems and many other conservation practices. Several years ago, they noticed another conservation stewardship need- one involving the Palouse Prairie. The Jensens own more than 100 acres of Palouse Prairie and have long recognized that land as rare, highly diverse, and breathtakingly beautiful in the profusion of wildflowers in the spring and early summer. However, they have two challenges: the threat of invasive plants and the lack of tools for restoration and prairie expansion.

In 2004 they embarked on two projects to help meet these challenges. Working with university researchers and conservation organizations, they are using ecologically sensitive methods to manage weeds on their Palouse Prairie remnant, as well as a neighbor's 42-acre remnant. In addition, the Jensens realized that long-term restoration, expansion and management of the Palouse Prairie requires the availability of eco-regional seeds of the native wildflowers. They decided to develop seed increase plots from collections off their land and then expand into certified-seed fields. Eventually these certified seeds, and the seedlings' produced from them, will be available for native landscaping, Palouse Prairie restoration, Conservation Reserve Program plantings and other regional restoration and reestablishment projects.

Idaho Comprehensive Plant Conservation Strategy

Purpose: The Idaho Conservation Data Center is initiating the process of developing an Idaho Comprehensive Plant Conservation Strategy (CPCS), which will provide a long-term approach for planning and prioritizing rare plant conservation statewide. The purpose of this panel is to provide Idaho's botanists with information about the justification and status of Idaho's CPCS. In addition, the panel will review the process that was used for developing and implementing Idaho's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (CWCS), which was accepted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in February 2006.

Title: **Getting ahead of the curve on plants** (3:15-3:30 PM)

Presenter: Jim Caswell, Administrator, Office of Species Conservation

- What is the concept and where are we headed in developing an Idaho CPCS
- Why the need for CPCS and why now
- Getting ahead of the curve and how CPCS can be used

Title: **Beyond CWCS: Reshaping Idaho's Conservation Model** (3:30-3:50 PM)

Presenter: Rita Dixon, IDCDC Biodiversity Program Leader, Idaho Department of Fish and Game

- Background on State Wildlife Grants Program and CWCS
- Eight elements to include in comprehensive conservation strategies
- Planning process and partnerships: the importance of being earnest
- Focus and scope
- Format and content
- Completion, outcomes, and availability
- Criteria and resources for identifying at-risk species
- Idaho CWCS Implementation
- IDCDC Biodiversity Program: working across disciplines
- Role of IDCDC Biodiversity Program Leader regarding Idaho CPCS: providing experiential knowledge from CWCS

BREAK (3:50-4:00 PM)

Title: **Options for delivering data from the Comprehensive Plant Conservation Strategy** (4:00-4:15 PM)

Presenter: Bart Butterfield, Geographic Information/Cartography Manager, Idaho Department of Fish and Game

- Overview of data delivery options
- Data delivery mechanism for Idaho CWCS
- Plans/hopes for Idaho CWCS
- Data sensitivity issues
- Data delivery plans for Idaho CPCS

Title: **Idaho's Comprehensive Plant Conservation Strategy** (4:15-4:35 PM)

Presenter: Beth Colket, IDCDC Botanist, Idaho Department of Fish and Game

- Background and justification for Idaho CPCS
- Process that will be used for developing CPCS
- Criteria for selecting plant species of greatest conservation need (SGCN)
- Application of habitat-based framework to Idaho's rare plants

CPCS Panel Discussion/Q&A (4:35-5:00 PM)

INPS Loses Valued Member Steve Brunsfeld: In Memoriam

With great sadness, the passing of a well-respected member of the INPS (White Pine chapter) is reported. Steve Brunsfeld, Professor of Forest Ecology and Genetics in the Department of Forest Resources at the University of Idaho, died October 6 at the age of 53, after an 11-year battle with cancer. Steve was held in high regard by those who knew and worked with him. He was well known for sharing both his vast botanical knowledge and his singular sense of humor with participants on the many INPS field trips that he led.

Many members may recall that Steve was the keynote speaker at the 2005 INPS Rare Plant Conference a few years ago, where he spoke on the "Biogeography of the Northern Rocky Mountains." He also gave a stimulating presentation at the 2004 INPS annual meeting at Priest Lake entitled "The history of the northern Rocky Mountain mesic forest ecosystem: Is the region a 'museum' or an 'overnight sensation'?"

Steve held bachelor's degrees in Forest Resources and Botany from the University of Idaho. In 1990, he earned a Ph.D. in Botany at Washington State University, with an emphasis in plant genetics. His DNA-based research there revealed the role of hybridization in the evolution of the tremendous diversity in willows.

He became an assistant professor in the Department of Forest Resources in 1990 and advanced to full professor in 2002. He also was a faculty member in the UI Institute for Molecular and Agricultural Genetic Engineering. An accomplished scientist, Steve concentrated his research in the molecular systematics of woody plants, conservation biology, phylogenetics and vegetation ecology. His research included genetic work on willows, grand fir-concolor hybrids, red alder, bitterbrush, coastal disjuncts of the northern Rocky Mountains of Idaho, and many other wildland plants.

He served as director of the Idaho Forest, Wildlife and Range Research Herbarium at UI from 1979 until his death, and in 1979-1980, was a consulting botanist/ecologist for the USDA Forest Service.

Steve was happiest when working in the field. He was the resident botanist with the UI's Lewis and Clark Trail field course, which retraced a portion of the famous explorers' route in north central Idaho. He also taught numerous Elderhostels and many plant identification courses, as well as a week-long field course to forestry professionals, offered annually for some 20 years.



Steve had a natural curiosity and keen intellect. He authored numerous academic articles, was an active member of several professional organizations, and won several teaching awards. He has left a lasting impression on his many graduate and undergraduate students.

A man of strong opinions, Steve liked a good argument. He enjoyed the give and take of debate on just about any topic. He especially valued discussions with his professional colleagues and political debates with friends and family.

Steve is survived by his wife, Pam, and sons, John and Nicholas, all of Moscow; his daughter, Courtney, of St. Louis, Mo.; his parents of the Chicago area; and his siblings.

*by Kathy Barnard, Washington State University,
and Janet Campbell, White Pine chapter.*

Contributions may be made to the Steven J. Brunsfeld Memorial Fund, c/o Gift Administration Office, University of Idaho Foundation, PO Box 443147, Moscow, ID 83844-3147. For more information, please contact Nancy Mathews (208) 885-6442 or E-mail mathews@uidaho.edu. Contributions will be used to plant collections of trees on campus and the UI arboretum, reflecting Steve's work and interests and for study useful to students in botany, ecology, and forest and rangeland conservation.

INPS 2007 STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION BALLOT

New Officers will be announced at the Annual INPS State Field Trip and Meeting
June 16, 2007 at Craters of the Moon National Monument

Please detach, complete, and mail the self-addressed ballot by May 10, 2007.
The term of office is from one annual meeting to the next -

NOMINEES

Please vote for one nominee in each category (check name or write in name):

President: Janet Benoit_____ Other (write in name) _____

Vice-Pres. Eric Wilson_____ Other (write in name) _____

Secretary Lois Rohay_____ Other (write in name) _____

Treasurer Jody Hull_____ Other (write in name) _____

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(unless you already have)

It's That Time of Year-Renew Your INPS Membership

(tear out this form, fill out your information, write a check, mail the form)

Idaho Native Plant Society Membership Form

Category	2007 Annual Dues
☐ Patron	\$35
☐ Individual	\$15
☐ Household*	\$20
☐ Student	\$8
☐ Senior Citizen	\$8

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Address (cont) _____

City/State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone (optional): _____

Email: _____

* Household memberships are allocated two votes

Chapter affiliation? (check one)

☐ Calypso (Coeur d'Alene; please include \$6 newsletter dues)

☐ Kinnikinnick (Sandpoint; please include \$10 for Kinnikinnick Journal)

☐ Pahove (Boise)

☐ Sah-Wah-Be (SE Idaho)

☐ White Pine (Moscow)

☐ Loasa (Twin Falls)

☐ Wood River (Ketchum-Sun Valley; please include \$7 chapter dues)

☐ None. Those who do not live near a chapter are encouraged to join. We can put you in touch with other members in your area, and can coordinate with you on any state level activities you may wish to be involved in.

Send dues to: INPS Treasurer, Box 9451, Boise, ID 83707.

Website address: IdahoNativePlants.org.

This form can be folded, taped up and mailed, but please make sure that your check is secure. If in doubt use an envelope.

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INPS News

Idaho Native Plant Society Board Meeting – October 21, 2006

The 2007 Rare Plant Conference is scheduled for February 13th and 14th at Idaho Power. A no-host reception will be held the evening of the 12th before the conference. The next board meeting will be at the conference.

The annual meeting in 2007 will be at Craters of the Moon National Monument. A group camp site is reserved for Friday, June 15th, and Saturday June 16th. The board meeting will be on Sunday at the park's meeting facility, but no other activities will be scheduled for Sunday.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted by the Board. INPS is operating within the overall budget. Dues for 2007 will be the same as last year's. The Treasurer has additional Idaho Native Plant Society brochures. Chapters will receive them when the brochures are requested.

Another reminder was made to put "Please Post" in the subject line of items emailed to Paul Schaffer for posting on the website. The Board would like the chapters to post their own information, and training will be arranged to make that possible. The Secretary will also have a short summary of the board meeting minutes posted.

Sage Notes was discussed extensively. The Board recognizes the importance of the newsletter for keeping members informed, but the newsletter has been increasingly difficult to get published. Three reasons for this difficulty were discussed. One reason was gathering the articles and other information for the newsletter. Possible solutions were to have committee chairs submit information, and for chapters to submit notices for upcoming field trips and to submit brief summaries of trips that were held. Different sections of the newsletter could also be assigned to different people. The secretary will also submit short summaries of board minutes. Another reason the newsletter is difficult to put out is the time consuming editing and set up of the newsletter. The Board voted to pay someone a

stipend for editing Sage Notes in 2007. Deadlines will be included in the contract. The last reason the newsletter is difficult to publish is the actual mailing. The newsletter has to be copied and folded, address labels have to be printed out and stuck on, and then the newsletters have to be sorted. The Board is examining more efficient ways to get this done.

INPS Committee Members

Annual Meeting Committee

Carol Blackburn, Wood River -- Chair
Paige Wolken, Loasa Chapter
Kelvin Jones Loasa Chapter

Conservation Committee Members

Chris Colson -- Pahove Chapter
Karl Holte -- Sah-Wah-Be
Juanita Lichthardt -- White Pine

ERIG Committee

Jody Hull, INPS Treasurer--Chair
Mike Mancuso, Pahove Chapter
Sarah Walker, White Pine Chapter
Janette Runnalls, Kinnikinnik Chapter

Membership Committee Members

Jenae Dixon, Sah-Wah-Be Chapter --Chair
Rae Chalton, Kinnikinnik Chapter
Gina Glenne, Pahove Chapter

Nominating Committee Members

Kelvin Jones, Loasa Chapter--Chair
Molly O'Reilly, Kinnikinnik Chapter
Jenae Dixon, Sah-Wah-Be Chapter
Mary McGown, Pahove Chapter

Rare Plant Conference

Gillian Crymes, Pahove Chapter--Chair
Karen Colson, Pahove Chapter
Cyndi Coulter, Pahove Chapter
Chris Colson, Pahove Chapter
Beth Colket, Pahove Chapter
Chris Murphy, Pahove Chapter
Judy Ferguson, Pahove Chapter
Ann Debolt, Pahove Chapter
Roger Rosentreter, Pahove Chapter

Sage Notes Committee

Dylan Levy-Boyd, Loasa Chapter --Editor
Mike Mancuso, Pahove Chapter-Technical Review
Gary Rogers, Kinnikinnik Chapter-Chapter liaison

By-Laws Committee

Lamar Orton, Loasa Chapter -- Chair
Ken Haag, Kinnikinnik Chapter
Steve Rust, Pahove Chapter
Kristen Fletcher, Sah-Wah-Be Chapter

Website Committee

Paul Schaeffer—Chair

Idaho Native Plant Society FY 2006 Financial Summary

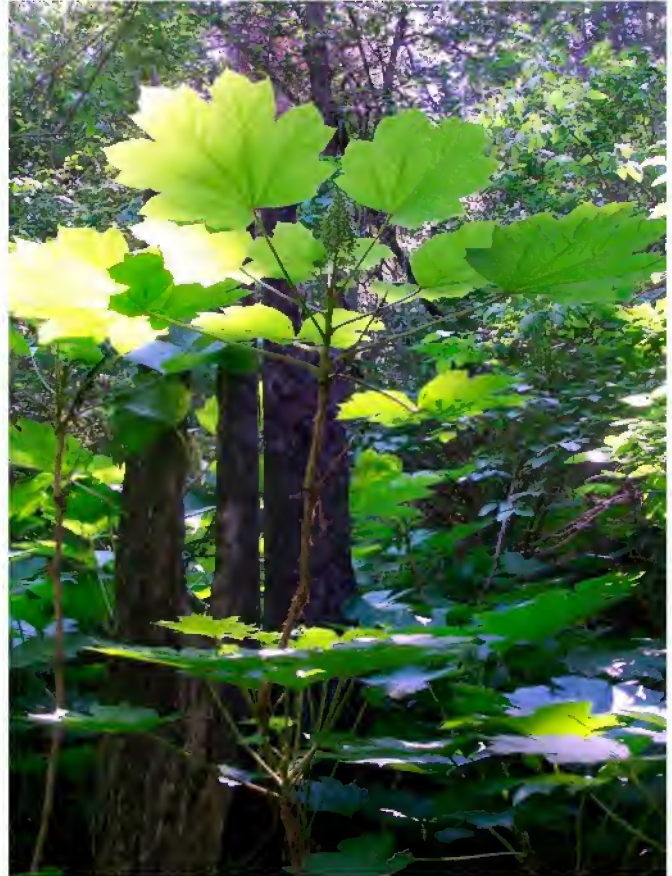
INCOME	
Membership dues & donations	\$ 6,906.35
Rare Plant Conference	\$ 1,838.27
Total Income	\$ 8,744.62
EXPENSES	
Annual meeting	\$ 301.17
ERIG grants	\$ 1,135.00
General administrative	\$ 2,457.80
Sage Notes printing & mailing	\$ 3,632.86
Sales tax	\$ 6.48
Total Expenses	\$ 7,533.31
ASSETS	
Bank account (12/12/06)	\$ 8,559.71
6-month CD (8/22/06)	\$ 2,688.23
Total Assets	\$11,247.94

Question? Contact Jody Hull, INPS Treasurer
jlhull@spro.net

Reminder:

2007 INPS Annual Meeting June 15-17 at Craters of the Moon National Monument

Mark your calendars! Check out the next issue (May) for more info.



Definitely NOT Crater of the Moon. This gnashing beast, *Oplopanax horridum*, was on display at the 2006 INPS Annual Meeting, Farragut State Park. An equally stunning flora awaits your company at the 2007 Annual Meeting. Start your summer off right. Make plans to attend. (photo: Dylan Levy-Boyd)

Have You Ever Considered Contributing to Sage Notes?

Please participate and share your experiences and knowledge with the greater INPS community. This incongruent geography that we call Idaho necessitates good communication--travel is just impractical. Whether your passions are gardening, hiking, conservation, wildlife, ethnobotany, photography, reading, or if you just like the idea of living among a native flora, then please write an article for Sage Notes. And don't feel like you have to be a professional to make a worthy contribution. The INPS membership is diverse and there are many ways to participate. If writing is not your best medium then contribute photos, artwork, comics (thanks Kent!), poetry....

The upcoming May issue already has some great themes planned. One is **River Flora** and the other is **Desert Flora**, in preparation for the Annual Meeting at Craters. If these themes inspire you, or if you have some other itch, send in your work. *Thanks, Editor*

At the June 25, 2006, board meeting, the conservation policy was changed.

Idaho Native Plant Society Conservation Policy

Section 1—Conservation advocacy

Conservation advocacy is undertaken to ensure that laws, regulations, ordinances, policies, best management practices, land management practices, etc. affecting native plants and their habitats are formulated or followed in a way that promote their conservation. INPS works with private citizens and their elected representatives, appointed officials, employees of federal, state, local agencies, and others to improve land management policies and environmental practices affecting native plants and their habitats. Appropriate actions relating to conservation advocacy are diverse. They include but are not limited to the following: public education, site monitoring and observing, commenting, interpreting data and reports, promoting or opposing a proposed action, litigating, and testifying. The INPS Board, State Conservation Committee, or chapter conservation committees may consider indirect or cumulative effects on Idaho's native plants and habitats.

Section 2—Speaking on behalf of the Idaho Native Plant Society

According to the bylaws of the Idaho Native Plant Society (INPS), no member may speak for or in the name of the Society without express authorization of the INPS Board of Directors (INPS Bylaws Article II, Section 1 and Article XI, Section 10). Therefore, any member who wishes to express his/her opinions on conservation issues beyond the scope of INPS bylaws or in addition to or in support of INPS' official comments must clearly do so on his/her own behalf.

The INPS Conservation Committee and chapter boards or conservation committees may advocate for the conservation of native plants and their habitats if the procedures in this policy are followed.

Section 3—Appropriate scientific information sources

In addition to the knowledge of experienced amateur and professional botanists and plant ecologists represented in the membership of INPS, relevant information sources and best available data should be used for informing our positions and statements. These include, but are not limited to:

- Published floras and ecological community classifications
- Peer reviewed literature, including scientific journals, books, theses, and other technical documents
- Federal, state, county, or other governmental technical publications
- Federal, state, county, or other governmental planning documents, including field data forms, data analyses, biological assessments, impact statements, species lists, etc.
- Idaho Conservation Data Center databases
- Other recognized botanical sources, specialists, and organizations

Section 4—Procedures for comments/letters on statewide, regional or local conservation issues

Each INPS chapter may develop policies and procedures for identifying and acting on local issues of conservation concern consistent with INPS State and chapter bylaws and INPS Conservation Policy. The INPS Board, State Conservation Committee, and/or the appropriate chapter conservation committee may review chapter policies and procedures when deemed necessary.

Letters may be generated by individual chapters or by the INPS. All letters should be consistent with the INPS bylaws, INPS Conservation Policy, and written in a professional and positive tone. INPS Board approval is required for any letters commenting on items NOT on the pre-approved list (see attached) or for any action related to potential administrative appeals or litigation.

Any two INPS members or a chapter board may draft a comment-letter. The letter shall be reviewed first by the INPS Conservation Committee which shall make a recommendation to the INPS Board. The INPS board's approval is required for any further action. In the event that the Conservation Committee is unable to review and/or recommend action, the item may be taken directly to the INPS board. A request to either the conservation committee or to the board will constitute the 10 day notice for a board meeting.

Section 5—Administrative Appeals and/or Litigation

A request to pursue an administrative appeal or litigation shall be reviewed by the INPS Conservation Committee, which shall make recommendation to the board whether or not to support the proposed appeal. If the INPS Conservation Committee is unable to do so, the board shall directly review the anticipated appeal. Notification of the board that an appeal is proposed shall serve as the 10-day special board meeting notice required by the INPS bylaws. The board shall have 14 days from the date of notification to act unless there is a mutually agreed upon extension between the board and the chapter or committee proposing the appeal.

Litigation includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Filing lawsuits
- Filing intent to sue
- Filing *amicus curiae* briefs
- Acting as an intervener in other organization's lawsuits
- Appealing legal decisions

Section 6—Limits to conservation advocacy

As a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization organized under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, INPS must conform to laws and regulations limiting certain involvement in political and legislative activities. Because of this:

- INPS and its chapters may neither endorse or oppose partisan or non-partisan candidates in any federal, state, or local elections, nor make financial contributions to candidates at any time
- No substantial part of INPS activities (as defined by the IRS) may consist of lobbying or other attempts to influence legislation (including initiatives and referenda), including writing letters and gathering signatures (endorsing or opposing an action or appointment), etc.

Several important exceptions to limits on political involvement by non-profit, tax-exempt organizations exist. For example:

- Testimony by INPS officers or members representing INPS before legislative committees regarding specific bills can be considered an educational activity if it meets our mission as stated in the bylaws.
- Rules, regulations, policies, and management decisions formulated and enforced by governmental regulatory bodies are not legislative activities; thus, we may provide testimony to regulatory bodies and attempt to influence decisions.
- Appointments to regulatory bodies (i.e., appointed positions) are not political in the strict sense; therefore, INPS may oppose or support candidates for appointments to boards, commissions, or the like.

Implementing Procedures:

Idaho Native Plant Society Conservation Policy

Comments Not Requiring Board Review and Approval

Conservation comments from INPS or its committees or chapters shall be science-based, professional, and positive in tone.

Specific issues that may be commented on without INPS board review include the following:

- Preventing and treating noxious weeds.
- Protecting habitat of native plant species listed by the CDC.
- Minimizing impact of road building and extension on native plant species.
- Keeping OHV on approved routes.
- Protecting wetlands and stream banks from degradation.
- Requesting clarification or further information on native plants or native plant habitats.
- Requesting inventory or other background work on sensitive/rare plants.



By Kent Fothergill (past INPS Vice President. Further proof that State office keeps the marbles shiny)

Chapter News

Calypso Chapter

At the October 4, 2006, meeting, 2007 Field trips were decided upon as follows :(a vote of 5-0 by members attending)

Sat. April 21, 2007. Tubbs Hill, Coeur d'alene.(Rain or Shine). Meet at 10 a.m. at East entrance side, parking lot. Bring sack lunch/water.

Sun. May 20, 2007. Qmelin Trails, Post Falls. (Rain or Shine) Meet at 10 p.m. at South West Parking Lot entrance. Tentative Potluck to follow, at Patron members Dr. Laura and Bill Asbell's residence, Post Falls.

Sat. June 9, 2007. Tweet- Scout Trail, near Farragett State Park, Bayview, Idaho. Meet at 8 a.m. at Walgreen's, Coeur d Alene, Southwest corner of parking lot. About a 5 hour hike--bring lunch and water. Moderately difficult. (This was a success at 2006 State INPS Annual Meeting.)

Sat. June 24, 2007. Gamlin Lake, near Sagle, Idaho. Meet at Walgreens, Coeur d'alene, 8 a.m. A very easy hike.

Calypso Chapter next meeting: **Wed. March 7, 2007.** Program: Vol. 4 of Mars Korchanski video on wild edibles/medicinals. Business meeting will consist of suggestions for remaining July and August 2007 field trips. New locations are encouraged. All plant lists from past year's field trips are to be updated, and brought current over the next several months, as decided at the business meeting. Election of Officers (tentative), for 2007, to be contemplated /proposed. Secretary and Newsletter editor positions to be filled as Phil hruskocy is resigning, effective 3-15-07, after serving since 1998, and 1999 those two postions, respectively. Vol. 3 of Mars Korchanski video on wild edibles/medicianls was shown. Plant list of species covered in the video, available upon request.

Kinnikinnick Chapter

.....2007 Programs TBA.....

Loasa Chapter

Jan 18th, 2007 Monthly Meeting – Poisonous Plants – Dylan Levy-Boyd
Room 258 of the Taylor Building at CSI 7-9 pm

Feb 13 &14 Rare Plant Conference – Boise – Go to it!

Feb 15th, 2007 Monthly Meeting – Grasses – Steven Paulsen,
Room 258 of the Taylor Building at CSI 7-9 pm



Lilium columbianum, Farragut State Park, Idaho June 24, 2006 (photo: Dylan Levy-Boyd)

Pahove Chapter

January 18: Rob Cox presents “Where Have All the Flowers Gone?”
Urban and Suburban Effects and Restoration Work with California Native Plants
7pm, MK Nature Center auditorium, Boise

February 13-14: Idaho Rare Plant Conference, Idaho Power Headquarters, Boise

March 15: Local Mycology (tentative), 7 pm, MK Nature Center auditorium, Boise

March 23-25: Boise Flower and Garden Show, Centre on the Grove, Boise

April 19: Native Plant ID Workshop (tentative), Boise State Botany Lab, Boise

April 21: Pahove's Annual Native Plant Sale, 10am-2pm, MK Nature Center garden, Boise
May Wildflower Walks: Thursday evenings to be announced, Boise Foothills.

For more information, check online for updates at idahonativeplants.org and go native!

Sah-Wah-Be Chapter

Feb 4, 2007 – 7:00 pm

Taking digital pictures and editing using your camera software and your computer

Dick Anderson, Room 204, Museum classroom, ISU

Mar 4, 2007 – 7:00 pm

Great adventures in plant watching and other plant excursions from the 2006 season

Room 204, Museum classroom, ISU

All members are encouraged to bring photos for display or as a presentation.

Apr 2, 2007 – 6:00 pm

ANNUAL CHAPTER BUSINESS MEETING,
ELECTION OF OFFICERS (No Host Dinner, optional)

Location to be announced....



In the depths of winter a little dose of *Balsamorhiza hookeri*, goes a long way toward warming the day. From Cherry Springs, on the Burley BLM (photo: Kent Fothergill)

White Pine Chapter

Thursday, January 25, 2007

Presentation by Penny Morgan, Professor of Forest Resources, UI
Post-Fire Expectations for Vegetation Regrowth and Possible Invasive Plants on the School Fire near Pomeroy.

Contact **Al Stage** at 882-7492 for more information on this event.

Wednesday, February 28, 2007

Presentation by Sanford Eigenbrode, Associate Professor of Plant Science, UI
Invasive Plants and Insect Interactions

Contact **Rosemary Streatfeild** at 882-2314 for more information on this event.

Thursday, March 22, 2007

Paul McDaniel, Professor of Soil Science, UI
The Palouse Underground: A Look at Soils of the Region

Contact **Janet Campbell** at 882-6409 for more information on this event.

Winter walk--date to be announced--probably late February

Wood River Chapter

The Wood River Chapter is partnering with the Sawtooth Botanical Garden to bring interesting activities related to native plants to the Wood River Valley.

What is damaging our forests? —Local Forest Entomologist and SNRA Biologist, Jim Rineholt will be giving a lecture on harmful insects that have been damaging our local forests. Sawtooth Botanical Garden, **Thursday April 19, 6pm.** Details: 726-9358 or www.sbgarden.org.

Idaho Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 9451
Boise, ID 83707

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Sage Notes is published four times a year in February, May, September, and December by the Idaho Native Plant Society, incorporated since 1977, under the laws of the State of Idaho. Editor, Dylan Levy-Boyd. **Newsletter ads:** personal ads \$2; commercial ads \$5 for 1/8 page, \$8 for 1/4 page, \$15 for 1/2 page, and \$25 for full page. Ads should be sent with payment. **Submissions:** members and others are invited to submit material for publication. Articles in any form, even hand-written, are welcome, as is art work. Please provide a phone number in case there are questions. Material will not be returned. Send submissions directly to the editor, Dylan Levy-Boyd, 506 Center St. West, Kimberly, ID 83341, or <dylan@csr-inc.com>. Submission deadlines are January 8, April 1, August 1, and November 1.

Officers: President, Janet Benoit; Vice President, Eric Wilson; Secretary, Lois Rohay; Treasurer, Jody Hull. **Calypso Chapter**, P.O. Box 331, Careywood, ID 83809. President, Bob Lee; Vice President, Roland Craft; Secretary, Phil Hruskocy; Treasurer, Janet Benoit; Newsletter, Phil Hruskocy. **Kinnikinnick Chapter**, 206 N. 4th Ave., PMB 162, Sandpoint, ID 83864. President, Phil Hough; Vice President, Ken Haag; Secretary, Konrad Dahlstrom; Treasurer, Marilyn George; Conservation, Carol Jenkins; Programs, Carol Jenkins; Newsletter*, Adrienne Lilly; Field Trips*, Molly O' Reilly. **Pahove Chapter**, PO Box 9451, Boise, ID 83707. President, Cyndi Coulter; Vice President, Bill Addington; Secretary, Gillian Crymes; Treasurer, Jody Hull; Conservation, Chris Colson. **Sah-Wah-Be Chapter**, 146 South 17th Avenue, Pocatello, ID 83201. President, Janet Bala; Vice President, Mel & Barb Nicholls; Secretary, Linda Johnson; Treasurer, Catalina Steckbauer. **White Pine Chapter**, PO Box 8481, Moscow, ID 83843. President, Janet Campbell & Nancy Miller; Vice President, David Pierce; Secretary, Sonja Lewis; Treasurer, Nancy Sprague; Conservation, Juanita Lichthardt. **Wood River Chapter**, PO Box 3093, Hailey, ID 83333. President, Tess O'Sullivan; Vice President, Carol Blackburn; Secretary, VACANT; Treasurer, VACANT. **Loasa Chapter**, 340 E 520 N, Shoshone, ID 83352. President, Kelvin Jones; Vice President, LaMar Orton; Secretary, Lois Rohay; Treasurer, Steve Paulsen.

The Idaho Native Plant Society (INPS) is dedicated to promoting interest in native plants and plant communities and to collecting and sharing information on all phases of the botany of native plants in Idaho, including educating the public to the values of the native flora and its habitats. In keeping with our mission, it is the intent of the INPS to educate its membership and the public about current conservation issues that affect Idaho's native flora and habitats. **Membership** is open to anyone interested in our native flora. Send dues to Jody Hull, INPS Treasurer, Box 9451, Boise, ID 83707. Website address: IdahoNativePlants.org.

Category	2007 Annual Dues
☐ Patron	\$35
☐ Individual	\$15
☐ Household *	\$20
☐ Student	\$8
☐ Senior Citizen	\$8

Name _____
Address _____
City/State _____
Zip _____ Telephone _____
E mail _____

Chapter affiliation? (check one)

- ☐ Calypso (Coeur d'Alene; please include \$6 newsletter dues)
☐ Kinnikinnick (Sandpoint; please include \$10 for Kinnikinnick Journal)
☐ Pahove (Boise) ☐ Sah-Wah-Be (SE Idaho)
☐ White Pine (Moscow) ☐ Loasa (Twin Falls)
☐ Wood River (Ketchum-Sun Valley; please include \$7 chapter dues)
☐ None. Those who do not live near a chapter are encouraged to join. We can put you in touch with other members in your area, and can coordinate with you on any state level activities you may wish to be involved in.

* Household memberships are allocated two votes